

John 8:12-59 **The Light of the World**

I Am The Light of the World

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Challenge of the Pharisees

13 The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true."

Two Witnesses – Jesus and the Father

14 Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. 15 You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. 16 And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. 17 It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. 18 I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me."

Where is Your Father

19 Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?"

Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also."

No one arrested Jesus because His hour had not yet come

20 These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

I am going where you cannot come – You will die in your sins

21 Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come."

22 So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"

23 And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

Who are You? – I have many things to speak which I heard from the Father

25 Then they said to Him, "Who are You?"

And Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. 26 I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." 27 They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

Evidence of the Cross – You will know that I Am Messiah, speaking things My Father taught Me

28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."

Many believed – Jesus spoke to the believers – You will know the Truth and the Truth will make you free

30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. 31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Abraham's Descendants – Slaves to Sin – Son of God or sons of Satan

33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free?'"

34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. 38 I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You do the deeds of your father."

Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father--God."

42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

You have a demon

48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?"

49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. 50 And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. 51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."

52 Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.' 53 "Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?"

Before Abraham was, I Am

54 Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. 55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." 57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You

are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

Failed attempt to stone Jesus

59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

I Am The Light of the World

✠ Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "**I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.**" [John 8:12]

✧ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and **the life was the light of men.** And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend (understand) it. [John 1:1-5]

✧ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. **That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.** [John 1:6-9]

✧ Jesus brought the revelation (**light**) of God in direct personal physical form to give us understanding of the heart, valuation, and purpose of God and His plan of judgment and Salvation for mankind.

✧ The revelation (**Light**) of Jesus is clear and unmistakable, showing us the **Way** God intends for us to live to be pleasing in His sight, the **Way** God has prepared for dealing with our sin problem, and the **Truth** regarding the end result for all alternatives of our choices, and the **Way** that leads us to Eternal **Life** (the **Way**, the **Truth**, and the **Life**). [John 14:6]

Challenge of the Pharisees

✠ The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true." [John 8:13]

Two Witnesses – Jesus and the Father

✠ Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me." [John 8:14-18]

✧ If Jesus spoke the truth about Himself, the testimony is true. Truth is truth no matter who it is that is giving testimony. The fact alone that Jesus spoke of Himself does not in itself make the testimony a lie.

✧ Jesus speaks with first-hand knowledge of His position with the Father before Creation, so Jesus knows where He came from and where He is going, this is information of which the Pharisees are ignorant, even though it has been demonstrated so frequently in the life and ministry of Jesus. [John 17:5]

✧ However the testimony concerning the person of Jesus is not entirely dependant upon the testimony of Jesus only, for the Father also gave testimony as to the identity of Jesus.

[Matthew 3:17, 17:5, Mark 9:7, Luke 3:22, 9:34-35, John 1:33-34, 1 John 5:9]

- ✧ Witnesses of Jesus are many, John the Baptist, works of Jesus, God the Father, Scriptures. [John 5:31-47]
- ✧ John the Baptist rightly witnessed the truth concerning Jesus. [John 1:6-8, 14-18, 19-23, 24-28, 29-34, 35, 5:33-35, Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:1-8, Luke 3:1-18]
- ✧ The Pharisees judge by appearance according to the flesh, Jesus being Omniscient, judges by full knowledge of the truth.
- ✧ Even in the Law, God has established that a thing is confirmed at the word of two witnesses. [Deuteronomy 19:15]
- ✧ I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me. [John 8:18]

Where is Your Father

- ✧ Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?" [John 8:19]
- ✧ Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also." [John 8:19]
- ✧ No one really knows the Son except the Father, and no one really knows the Father except the Son, and those to whom the Son reveals the Father. [Matthew 11:27, John 1:18, 1 John 4:12]
- ✧ To know Jesus is to know the Father. [John 14:7, Isaiah 9:6]

No one arrested Jesus because His hour had not yet come

- ✧ These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come. [John 8:20]
- ✧ Before it was recorded that His time or hour had not yet come. [John 2:4, 7:6-8, 30]
- ✧ Now His time is approaching and Jesus is teaching in the Temple openly, but His Hour has not yet come so no one arrests Him. [John 8:20, Matthew 26:55]

I am going where you cannot come – You will die in your sins

- ✧ Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and **you will seek Me, and will die in your sin**. Where I go you cannot come." [John 8:21]
- ✧ Jesus is about to return to the Father in Heaven.
- ✧ So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come?'" [John 8:22]
- ✧ **Those who do not believe, will die in their sin** and will not be allowed to enter Heaven or the Kingdom of Heaven. [Matthew 7:21-23, 8:11-12, 13:24-30, 36-43, 47-52, 21:31-32, 43, 25:31-46, Luke 13:23-30, 18:15-17, John 3:3-18]
- ✧ And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for **if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.**" [John 8:23-24]
- ✧ Jesus clearly distinguished between their origin from earth and His origin from Heaven.
- ✧ **Those who do not believe that Jesus is He (the Messiah) will die in their sin.**
- ✧ What we **believe** will certainly impact our eternal destiny. [Matthew 21:28-32, Mark 16:14-16, Luke 8:12, 24:25-27, 36-48, John 1:6-13, 3:13-18, 36]
- ✧ When the woman at the well in Samaria asked about the Messiah, Jesus clearly said, "I who speak to you am He." [John 4:25-26]

Who are You? – I have many things to speak which I heard from the Father

- ✧ Then they said to Him, "Who are You?" [John 8:25]
- ✧ It is strange that people who are locked in their own misconceptions are unable to understand when the truth is presented to them.
- ✧ Jesus had just identified Himself as Messiah of Israel and they still asked, "Who are You?"
- ✧ Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. [John 8:25]
- ✧ I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." [John 8:26]

- ✧ The message of Jesus came from the Father Who sent Him.
- ✧ It contains teachings concerning the religious leaders of Israel.
- ✧ It contains revelations concerning the religious leaders of Israel in the sight of God.

✚ They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father. [John 8:27]

Evidence of the Cross – You will know that I Am Messiah, speaking things My Father taught Me

✚ Then Jesus said to them, "**When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He**, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. [John 8:28]

- ✧ The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is ample evidence to demonstrate that Jesus is in fact the Messiah of Israel.
- ✚ And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." [John 8:29]
 - ✧ The things Jesus did always pleased the Father. [Matthew 3:18, 17:5, Mark 1:11, Luke 3:22, 2 Peter 1:17]
 - ✧ Jesus, as the obedient Son of God, never felt alone or away from the Father until the time when God turned His back on the sin that had been put on Jesus' shoulders on the cross, and Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" [Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34]

Many believed – Jesus spoke to the believers – You will know the Truth and the Truth will make you free

✚ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. [John 8:30]

✚ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "**If you abide in My word**, you are My disciples indeed. [John 8:31]

- ✧ The fruitful evidence of a true believer is the life of obedience to the teachings of Jesus.
- ✧ Jesus said, "By their fruit you shall know them." [Matthew 7:16-20, 12:33, Luke 6:43-45]
- ✧ It is also evidence of our love for Jesus, "He that loves Me also keeps My commandments. [John 14:21]
- ✚ And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." [John 8:32]
 - ✧ If we remain in the words of Jesus in obedience and belief, we will know the truth that sets us free. Free from sin and its final consequential reward. Free from the fear of death and Hell.

Abraham's Descendants – Slaves to Sin – Son of God or sons of Satan

✚ They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free'?" [John 8:33]

✚ Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **whoever commits sin is a slave of sin**. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. **Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.** [John 8:34-36]

- ✧ The Purpose of the first coming of Jesus in human form was to provide the covering of our sins by His blood shed on the cross of Calvary, providing atonement for us before God.
- ✧ When our sin is covered, we are certainly free indeed. [Matthew 26:28, Romans 4:7, Psalm 32:1, 85:2]
- ✧ Sin is the greatest enemy of mankind, and only the blood of Jesus can cover it and present us spotless before the throne of His glory. [Jude 1:24-25, Hebrews 10:19-23, 13:12, 1 John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, 7:13-15]
- ✚ "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. [John 8:37]
 - ✧ Jesus knows the blood line, He also knows the heart.
- ✚ I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father." [John 8:38]
 - ✧ By the evidence of the fruit of the life you will know them.

- ✧ Jesus reveals God to the people, demonstrating His relationship with the Father.
- ✧ The Jews seek to kill Jesus, demonstrating their relationship with their father the devil.
- ✚ They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." [John 8:39]
- ✚ Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father." [John 8:39-41]
- ✧ Blood line alone does not make a person fit for the reward of the faithful obedient father of believing faith.
- ✧ Abraham is known as the father of the faithful. [Genesis 15:1-6, Romans 4:1-25, Galatians 3:1-14, Hebrews 11:8-12, 17-18, James 2:23]
- ✧ Abraham did not seek to kill the one who brought the truth from God.
- ✧ The Jews desire to kill Jesus indicates who their real father is.
- ✚ Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father--God." [John 8:41]
- ✧ Everyone who does evil in the name of God wants to call themselves children of God.
- ✧ Even Paul the Apostle thought he was doing God a service when he was persecuting and killing Christians. [John 16:2, Acts 22:3-5]
- ✧ The Jews have a zeal for God out of mistaken beliefs. [Romans 10:1-4]
- ✚ Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God." [John 8:42-47]
- ✧ Proof of the truth is found in the evidence of the behavior.

You have a demon

- ✚ Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?" [John 8:48]
- ✧ How human it is for a person who hears what he does not like to accuse the speaker of being demon possessed. The fault must be the others because there is no fault in me. Everyone is right in his own eyes. [Deuteronomy 12:8, Judges 17:6, 21:25, Proverbs 12:15, 21:2]
- ✧ That does not make it right in the eyes of God.
- ✚ Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." [John 8:49-51]
- ✧ The entire ministry of Jesus was to provide Eternal Life to those who believe and obey. [Foundational focus of the entire New Testament]
- ✧ That is not evidence of a man being demon possessed.

You have a demon

- ✚ Then the Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.' "Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?"

Before Abraham was, I Am

- ✚ Jesus answered, "If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." [\[John 8:54-56\]](#)
- ✚ Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" [\[John 8:57\]](#)
- ✚ Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." [\[John 8:58\]](#)
 - ✧ Jesus unmistakably identified Himself as God the Word, Who was before the creation and through Whom everything was created, The Eternal God. [\[John 1:1-14, Ephesians 3:8-9, Colossians 1:9-17, Hebrews 1:1-4, 11:3\]](#)
 - ✧ This statement being true, we learn that all the appearances of God, the Angel of Yehowah, Yehowah, Word of the Lord, The Lord, etc. were all appearances of Jesus in His pre-incarnate state as God the Word. [\[Genesis 2:7, 19, 21-24, 3:8-19, 12:7, 17:1, 18:1-33, 26:1-2, 26:23-25, 35:1-7, 9, 48:3, Exodus 3:2, 16, 4:5, 6:3, 24:9-11, Judges 6:12, 13:3-21, 1 Samuel 3:21, 2 Samuel 24:15-17, 1 Kings 3:5, 9:2, 11:9, 2 Chronicles 1:7, 3:1, 7:12, Luke 1:11\]](#)

Failed attempt to stone Jesus

- ✚ Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. [\[John 8:59\]](#)
 - ✧ The Jews had no doubt as to the meaning of Jesus as He claimed to be God.
 - ✧ Their first impulse was to stone Him for blasphemy.
 - ✧ His time had not yet come and He departed untouched through the midst of them, this was the same as in Nazareth. [\[John 8:59, Luke 4:28-30\]](#)